(d) whether the Central Government is considering to refer the claims regarding share of Rajasthan in hydro-electricity projects of Punjab to the Supreme Court for their opinion?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) An agreement was reached between the States of Punjab, Haryana & Rajasthan and Government of India on 10.05.1984 wherein it was agreed that in view of the claims raised by Haryana & Rajasthan for sharing of power in Anandpur Sahib Hydel Project, Mukerian Hydel Project, Thein Dam Project, UBDC Stage-II and Shahpur Kandi Hydel Scheme, the Government of India shall refer the matter to the Hon'ble Supreme Court for its opinion as to whether the States of Rajasthan & Haryana are entitled to a share in the power generated from these projects and if they are, then what would be the share of each State. It was agreed that the Hon'ble Supreme Court's opinion obtained by Government of India shall be remitted to the signatory states and shall be binding on them.

The matter has not been referred to the Hon'ble Supreme Court. However, a number of formal and informal discussions have taken place since 1984 to settle the issue amicably. These issues were also discussed in the Northern Zonal Council meetings held in 1997, 1999 and 2005. So far, no consensus has emerged due to divergent views.

Further, consequent upon the enactment of the Punjab Termination of Agreements Act, 2004 by the Government of Punjab terminating all its agreements on sharing of water with the other States, Union Government has referred the matter to the Hon'ble Supreme Court for seeking its advice.

India's participation in Science at global level

†2065. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that participation of India's science has been decreasing on global level after the decade of seventies;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that even now in certain fields science in India is much ahead than the average global level; and

(d) if so, the names of those fields?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Participation in science research at global level is usually measured by number of research papers published in cited international journals. The number of research papers published by Indian scientists has increased from 14983 in 1980 to 19448 in 2005. India's share in terms of percentage of world publications insciences first declined from 2.9% in 1980 to 1.6% in 1996, but again steadily increased to 1.9% in 2005. While it is difficult to comment whether India is much ahead of the global average level, Indian scientists are doing intenationally competitive research in many scientific fields, e.g. solid state chemistry, theoretical high energy physics, structural biology, etc.

Lightning casualties in Orissa

2066. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether to control lightning casualties in Orissa, it is proposed to install anti-lightning towers;

(b) if so, the places that have been identified for installation of such towers;

(c) whether this project would be funded by some foreign agency; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal under consideration to install anti-lightning towers.

(b) to (d) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.